Slow progress in laying Rail Lines

† l020. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in "Rashtriya Sahara" dated 23rd December, 2001, captioned. "Atyadhunic Takneek Ke Bavjood 13 Hazar Kilometers Patriayan Hi Bichh Payee";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the reasons of slow progress of Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, about 11,000 route km. of new railway lines have been constructed since independence upto 2000-2001.

(c) Constraint of resources.

Passenger amenities at Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh

1021. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made during the current financial year to upgrade passenger amenities at the selected railway stations in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stations selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Railways do not maintain the State-wise provision of funds. However, the State of Andhra Pradesh is served by 3 Zonal Railways, namely Southern Railway, South Central Railway and South Eastern Railway and Rs. 16.45 crore, Rs. 13.95 crore and Rs. 19.01 crore respectively were allotted to these 3 Zonal Railways for

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.